

Message Text

SECRET

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53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 MC-02 ACDA-19 OMB-01

NIC-01 DRC-01 /160 W

----- 079006

R 220915Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4886

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T TEHRAN 9016

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IR, AF

SUBJECT: IRAN/AFGHAN RELATIONS

REF: KABUL 8539

1. DURING AUDIENCE WITH SHAH ON DECEMBER 20, HAD OPPORTUNITY TO COVER WITH HIM MAIN POINTS MADE IN REFTEL. HE LISTENED CAREFULLY AND REACTED IN A GENERALLY FAVORABLE MANNER. HE DID NOT SEEM TO BE PARTICULARLY AWARE THAT WAHID ABDULLAH MIGHT BE COMING HERE IN NEAR FUTURE. HE MADE A QUICK, LOW-KEY STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THE GOI DID NOT CARE WHETHER OR NOT THE AFGHANS APPROVED THE HELMAND WATERS AGREEMENT SINCE IT WAS LARGELY FAVORABLE TO AFGHANISTAN. HAVING GOT THAT OFF HIS CHEST, THE SHAH OPINED THAT IT WAS IN THE GOA'S INTEREST TO APPROVE AND BY A NOD OF THE HEAD INDICATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEM THAY ARE HAVING ABOUT SHAFIQ.

2. THE SHAH'S PRINCIPAL CONCERN THESE DAYS ABOUT AFGHANISTAN IS WHY IT IS THAT THE SOVIETS ARE RAPIDLY MODERNIZING THE THREE DIVISIONS HE HAS BEEN INFORMED ARE

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RECEIVING RUSSIAN EQUIPMENT. THE MOTIVE CLEARLY PUZZLES

HIM. HE HAD HEARD FROM BHUTTO ABOUT THE 860-ODD TANKS WHICH THE AFGHANS HAD ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED FROM THE SOVIET UNION. I PUT THAT PARTICULAR REPORT IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE TO WHICH HE REJOINED THAT PERHAPS THIS WAS THE NUMBER OF TANKS THE RUSSIANS INTENDED EVENTUALLY TO GIVE TO THE AFGHANS. HE NOTED IN THIS CONNECTIONS THAT THE SYRIANS HAD RECEIVED 1,500 TANKS FROM THE RUSSIANS. THIS PART OF OUR CONVERSATION TRAILED OFF WITH THE SHAH ASKING AGAIN RHETORICALLY WHY THE SOVIETS WANTED TO PUT SO MUCH IN THE WAY OF ARMAMENT INTO AFGHANISTAN.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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30 JUN 2005

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